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are Craftsmen that labour, Day and Night, to lay Hooks and Snares; there are Nets so subtle that the Cunningest will be caught: From thence proceed those Packeth and Letters which bewitch the People, which weaken Courage, and pervert the Fidelity of the greatest Captains.

BALZAC'S PRINCE.



NOTHING is more just than this Definition of a *Craftsman*, by the celebrated Monsieur Balzac, that he is one, who labours, Day and Night, to lay Hooks and Snares to pervert Fidelity and seduce the People. This Characteristic is applicable to the *Craftsmen* of all Times and

Places. Their Design has, in every Age, been one and the same, to deceive and betray; however the *Craftsmen* of one Age may be distinguished from those of another, by the Difference of their Success, the Variety of their Applications, and the Superiority of their Skill.

Thus, for Instance, the *Craftsmen* Monsieur Balzac speaks of, were as famous for seducing the most Cunning, as the *Craftsmen* of our Times are for deluding the most Simple. In their Endeavours to bewitch the People, the *Craftsmen* of no Age have been more indefatigable than those of our own; but the Snare has been laid in the Sight of the Bird, and it is as surprising to see Men, that they should have been able to pervert the Fidelity of a few, as it is mortifying to these *Patriots* that they have not ensnared all.

It is notorious, that the Majority of Mr. D'Anvers's Disciples, are a Party, who wish for no other Chance than what they shall meet with in universal Confusion. Evil is their Good; they are worthy of their Leader, and their Leader is worthy of them; but the undersigning Few, whom these Deceivers have ensnared, are really Objects of Compassion; it moves the Humanity to consider the Wretchedness of their Condition. Unhappy Men! ever since they have laid the Use of their own Eyes, and the *Craftsman* has seduced them they can see nothing true but through a Glass, what has been their Entertainment? Profits of Tyranny and Slavery, Poverty and Ruin. It is not Matter of Wonder to every Man, who considers how many Years these Tools of Faction have had lying in their View but Chains and Fetters, Want and Famine, that they have not long ago been frightened to Death; and certainly they could not have held it, if the *Craftsman* has, now and then, judiciously intermixed a Cordial, changed the miserable Scene, and given them Hopes that his Help was at Hand.

Thus, I remember in the Year 1728, when the parts of his Disciples were fainting, an Expedient was found out to revive their drooping Spirits; Rumour was had to the Predictions of that famous dumb Oracle Duncan Campbell. He was asked, How long the *Craftsman's* noble Spirit of Wit, Humour and Argument could be opposed? His Answer was, that the *Craftsman* should be victorious in the Year 1729, from Time to the End of all Time. He was then asked, when the Negotiations at Soissons would be concluded? His Answer was, that the *Craftsman* would triumph in the Year 1729. He was asked again some questions about the national Debt, Sinking Fund, &c. His Answer still was, that the *Craftsman* should gain his point in the Year 1729. These Prophecies being published in the Country Journal, with a Declaration, that Duncan Campbell was a true genuine Conjuror, and as Duncan Campbell was a true genuine Conjuror, and as one of your false, lying, wooden Oracles of Lynn or Down, it was, of Course, intitled to the implicit Belief of the *Faction*; for nothing is too difficult for the Faith of a modern Malecontent. I have heard of a Scotch preacher, who wished that all his Congregation had as much Faith as the *Jacobites*; he meant in Degree, not in Kind; but the *Craftsman's* Followers have it in Kind; and this Expedient was as serviceable as any for the Time it was calculated. And when its Expiration was over, that the dumb Conjuror was no truer an Oracle than Mr. D'Anvers himself, it was nevertheless of no small Diservice to his Cause; for it must be owned, to

the Ease of Mr. D'Anvers's Labours, that his Disciples have as little Memory as they have Judgment.

THE *Craftsman* has, ever since, pursued his Point, and continued, without ceasing, to alarm the People, sometimes with Danger from one Quarter, sometimes from another: Like Proteus he changes himself into all Shapes; but, in every Form, he pursues the same End, and carries on the same Design, to make the People uneasy, and terrify them into a Desire of Change. When he acts the Quack, it is to persuade the People, that, from the Head to the Foot, there is no Soundness in them; that they are all full of Rottenness and Ulcers, and putrifying Sores, it signifies nothing to remonstrate that they feel no Symptoms but those of Health; that they feel no Pain, nor no Sickness; that they breathe as freely, take as much Exercise, and pursue their Business or Pleasures with as much Profit, Ease and Delight as ever they did; it signifies nothing, I say, to reply to him in this Manner. They must, he tells them, believe, that they are sick, for he knows it, if they do not; and if they do not rouse themselves, and purge and vomit, and let Blood, they don't deserve to live.

In like Manner, when he counterfeits the Oracle, and pretends to the Spirit of Prophecy, we are sure to hear of nothing but evil Days, of Wars, or Bondage, or Desolation to come; unless we shall submit to his Interposition for our Deliverance from all these direful Spectres, that will never forsake us while he is out of Power.

His last Performance may convince us of this; there we find Mr. D'Anvers's next Scene is to be the Prospect of Poverty. His *Grub Correspondent* is so merry with it, that we cannot suppose him to be at all in Earnest; but we must hope for the Honour of Mr. D'Anvers's Politicks, that he will assume the Patriot on this Occasion, and treat our distressed Circumstances with more Seriousness. As all his Prospects are melancholy and terrible, and all his Retrospects happy and glorious; so we may expect to hear him haranguing on the superior Wealth of former Times. We shall be told, perhaps, that under our ancient Constitution, Trade flourish'd to such a Degree, that it was not uncommon to meet with Merchants and Tradesmen, who could pay their Fines, rather than serve the Office of City Sheriff; and that heretofore People were able to live handsomely themselves, and yet afford very noble Fortunes with their Children, and then will come a, but now alas! *Temperamur*. No handsome Living now but what entails Poverty; no ample Fortunes for Children, no flourishing Commerce, no wealthy Merchants, no rich Tradesmen, nothing but universal Poverty, national Poverty and Distress.

As we may naturally expect the Complaints of the *Craftsman* to run after this Manner; so when he makes them seriously, we will give them a serious Answer. But nothing is more evident, than that this Stratagem is introduced only to vary the Scene; the Attention of most of his Readers has been quite fatigued with the Prospect of imaginary Slavery that he has been setting before them these several Years; nor has the Retrospect which he has given them into the Freedom of our ancient Constitution, been able to prevent it; for upon the severest Examination of our modern ministerial Constitution, as the *Craftsman* most dishonestly calls it; they find it a very good one; they can no more perceive it to be a Machine of Slavery, than they can see Liberty in our ancient Constitution.

The *Craftsman* then having long labour'd in vain to persuade Mankind that we are going to be made Slaves, is for changing the Alarm, and hopes to succeed better by the Cry of Poverty, than he has done by that of Slavery. But as this Clamour has no better Foundation than the other, it will doubtless meet with the same Fate. It will be found, that as the Character of a *Craftsman* is, in all Respects, opposite to that of a Patriot; to the Conduct of *Craftsmen* will be always found conformable to the Description given of them by the Author of my Motto; they will always be found labouring to deceive the People, and ought to be treated as their declared Enemies: Such is Mr. D'Anvers, and I cannot conclude this Paper in a manner more serviceable to the Publick, than by proving what I assert; I will do it too, that I may convince Mr. D'Anvers himself of his Iniquity, in a Way which he has formerly recommended, if I

mistake not, as the strongest Method of Proof, in Mood and Figure. To proceed then.

He who endeavours to make the People dissatisfied with the best Constitution of Government that can enter into the Idea of Man, is an Enemy to the People;

BUT Mr. D'Anvers does this;

THEREFORE Mr. D'Anvers is an Enemy to the People.

If Mr. D'Anvers should deny the Minor, I prove it thus:

Mr. D'Anvers labours to render the People dissatisfied with our present Constitution: But our present Constitution is the best that can enter into the Idea of Man;

THEREFORE Mr. D'Anvers is an Enemy to the People.

If Mr. D'Anvers objects to the Minor Term of this Syllogism, I prove it from his own Works.

The Constitution of the British Government is such, that it is in the Power of none but Britons themselves to destroy it.

A Constitution, in which none can hurt the People but themselves, is the best and most perfect Constitution that can enter into the Idea or Mind of Man:

THEREFORE the Constitution of the British Government is the Best we can raise our Ideas to.

I prove the Minor of this Syllogism also from the Works of Mr. D'Anvers; where Mr. Oldcastle, speaking of the new Settlement of the several Branches of the Legislature in Henry the Seventh's Time, has these Words:

* Thus (says he) our limited Monarchy became capable of as much Perfection, as Wisdom, and favourable Accidents, can communicate to any human Institution. For can we raise our Ideas of this kind of Perfection higher than ordering the Distribution of Property and Power, in such a Manner, that the Privileges of the People, and the Prerogatives of the Crown cannot be taken away, unless with their own Consent, and by their own Fault? Now to this Point of Perfection was the Constitution of our Government brought, and farther it could not be brought; because it is impossible to secure either Prince or People against themselves, or against the Effects of their own Conduct.

THIS is what the Friends of the Government have declared all along of the Revolution Settlement:

THE Conclusion then first made will be valid; since it is found to rest upon Premises allowed by the *Craftsman*, and it comes out Demonstration, that the present Constitution of the British Government is as perfect and good as our Ideas can raise to;

THAT Mr. D'Anvers has labour'd to render the People dissatisfied with this Constitution;

CONSEQUENTLY, Mr. D'Anvers is an Enemy to the People, unless he will controvert the Point, whether he shall be deem'd an Enemy to the People, who would destroy their Contentment under the best Constitution of Government that they can attain to, or are capable of.

* *Craftsman*. Vol. VI. p. 183.

BRITANNUS.

L O N D O N.

They write from Dublin, that the House of Commons there have ordered Heads of a Bill, For the better Regulation of Partnerships, to encourage the Trade and Manufactures of that Kingdom. Another, For erecting a Workhouse in Cork. And another, For the Recovery of all Debts in a summary Way in the City and Liberties of Dublin.

Letters Patent are passing the Seal there, for translating Dr. Clayton, Bishop of Killala, to the Bishoprick of Cork; Dr. Carey, Bishop of Clonsfert, to the Bishoprick of Killala; and for promoting Dr. Whitcomb to the Bishoprick of Clonsfert.

Sir Adolphus Oughton's Regiment of Dragoons is marched into Dublin, to supply the Place of General Pierce's Regiment of Horse, which is marched into Country Quarters.

Last Friday Se'night the Lords of Justiciary at Edinburgh, took into Consideration the Sentence of Death

pronounced by the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, upon the two Soldiers, MacAdams and Long, for the Murder of Mr. Frazer Merchant of Inverness, upon the high Seas; when their Lordships found, that the said Judge had committed Iniquity (as the Scots Civilians term it) in not admitting the Defences proposed for the Prisoners; and therefore suspended the Sentence *simpliciter*, and discharged the Magistrates of Edinburgh, &c. from putting the Sentence in Execution for the Time to come. But MacAdams and Long continue in Prison.

The same Day the Duke of Athol arrived there from Dunkeld, in his Way to London; as did next Morning the Lord George Murray, his Grace's Brother.

Letters from Bristol mention the Provision making by the Thieves of those Parts against the ensuing Festival; and that several Gentlemen and Farmers have been plundered of whole Drovers of Turkeys and other Poultry; so that, in several Places, they have not left one. William Pritchard was lately committed to Newgate there, for breaking open the Dwelling-house of Mr. Edward Cooper, and stealing out of his Counting-house about 6 l. in Money. The said Pritchard, after committing the Fact, fled, and was taken at Tytherington in Gloucestershire.

Friday last the Town Ringers of Ipswich rung 5040 Changes on 8 Bells, at St. Mary's Tower, being the whole Peal of Grandfire Tribles, which was perform'd in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.

Yesterday Se'nnight four Convicts from the Castle of Norwich, and one from the City Gaol, were sent away for Transportation; and last Week one Carman was committed to the Castle, upon Suspicion of Shop-lifting.

Yesterday the Lady Mary Godolphin, only Daughter of the Right Hon. the Earl of Godolphin, lay very dangerously ill at his House at St. James's.

On Sunday last Arthur Gore, Esq; who has been on half Pay for a considerable Time, kissed his Majesty's Hand at St. James's, for a Lieutenantancy in the Hon. Governor Philips's independent Regiment of Foot in Newfoundland.

Yesterday John Medicote of Parson's Green, Esq; was married to Miss Jane Clifton, Daughter of Thomas Clifton of Castle Rising in the County of Norfolk, Esq; a Lady of fine Accomplishments, and a Fortune of 8000 l.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Thomas Evans of Newport in the County of Southampton, Esq; to be a Captain in the Royal Blue Guards.

Last Sunday Mr. Finch, a Cheesemonger in Piccadilly, going to Hammersmith, was attacked at the End of Holland-walk, by two Footpads, who robbed him of his Money, to the Value of 14 l. and afterwards beat him in a very cruel Manner.

On Thursday next will be held a General Council at St. James's, when, 'tis said, his Majesty will prick down the Sheriffs for the several Counties for the Year ensuing.

On Sunday last a Man hang'd himself at his House in Queen's-head-court near Ratcliff-highway, and Yesterday the Coroner's Inquest sat on his Body, and brought in their Verdict Lunacy. His Wife, about a Year and a half ago, committed the same Violence on herself, in the same House. He has left five Children, the eldest of whom is not above eleven Years of Age.

Yesterday the Sessions ended at the Old Baily, when 9 Prisoners were tried, 4 of whom were cast for Transportation, and 5 acquitted. The 11 mentioned in our former, received Sentence of Death, and 3 were burnt in the Hand.

Elizabeth Walker was tried for a Conspiracy against Joseph and Michael Willis, and found guilty thereof, and fined 5 l. to suffer 6 Months Imprisonment, and to find Sureties for her good Behaviour for 12 Months.

In the Hyp-Doctor, this Day published, is a Letter to Caleb D'Anvers, Esq; congratulating him on his turning Monk, and preaching up Poverty and Contempt of the World in his last Saturday's Journal; the Topick of national Poverty examined; as also some new critical Remarks on the English Law, or the Key to it continued.

Yesterday Bank Stock was 145 1-half. India 166 1-half. South Sea 92 7-8ths. Old Annuity 108 3-4ths. New ditto 109 1-half. Three per Cent. Annuity 99. Emperor's Loan 109. Royal-Assurance 102. London-Assurance 13. York Buildings 2 1-4th. African 15. India Bonds 51. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 31. 12s. Premium. South Sea Bonds no Price. New Bank Circulation 51. 2s. 6d. Premium. Salt Tallies 41. Prem. English Copper 21. 1s. Welsh ditto, Books shut. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 3 per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 109 1-half.

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